DELAWARE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD

The Townsend Building 401 Federal Street, Suite 2 Dover, Delaware 19901

Meeting Minutes

The Department of Education
The Cabinet Room

August 2, 2012 1:15 P.M.

Members Present: Michael Casson, Samtra Devard, Stephanie DeWitt, Karen Gordon, Cristy Greaves, Wendy Murray, Mary Pinkston, Shelley Rouser, and Jacqueline Wisnauskas.

Members Absent: Joanne Christian, Marilyn Dollard, Chris Kenton, David Kohan, Jill Lewandowski, Kathleen Thomas, and Whitney Price.

Others Present: Charlie Michels; PSB Executive Director, Paula Fontello; Deputy Attorney General, Donna Mitchell; RTTT Deputy Officer TLEU Professional Development, Michelle Kriss; Secretary to PSB, Donna Johnson; State Board of Education Executive Director, Deb Stevens; DSEA, Elizabeth Light; Delaware School Nurse Association, Cathy Owens-Oliver; Education Testing Service, Debbie Doordan, Charles Sheppard, Ellie Ludwigsen and Richelle Talbert; Innovative Schools Delaware Leadership Project, and Rashid Walker; Graduate of Delaware Leadership Project's Cohort 1.

I. Opening

Call to Order: Dr. Greaves, Professional Standards Board Vice Chair, called the meeting to Order at 2:45 p.m.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Executive Director's Report

• Mr. Michels said he received a request from Smyrna School District regarding an application for a district-specific Mentoring Program. Mr. Michels spoke with Dr. Barton of the DDOE Teacher and Administrator Quality Development workgroup to find out if it would be considered an amended or a hybrid program. Dr. Barton felt this proposed program was a hybrid and would therefore not need PSB review and approval. Mr. Michels said he would like to establish where the "line" is in regard to modifications as approved by the Department in a mentoring program as opposed to a program that requires Professional Standards Board approval. More discussion is needed with the DDOE on this topic.

- Mr. Michels said he visited the Delaware Leadership Project Cohort 2 on July25th at the Eden Support Center in Bear DE. He was impressed with the 6 candidates and the level of instruction.
- Mr. Michels referred the PSB members to their folders to review the Statewide Student Testing Calendar.
- Mr. Michels said there will be a new change in PSB membership and asked Dr. Rouser to address the Board. Dr. Rouser announced she has resigned from her position in the New Castle County Vocational School District as the Supervisor of Instruction, and had accepted the invitation from Secretary of Education Murphy to come to the Delaware Department of Education to serve as the Special Assistant to the Secretary. As this will seemingly be a conflict of interest, upon DOE employment Dr. Rouser will no longer be able to serve as a PSB member. The Board members present congratulated Dr. Rouser on her new position.
- Mr. Michels referred the PSB members to their folders and asked them to review the two page document that listed PSB regulations and their initial effective dates. He stated that all of those with effective dates of over 5 years ago must be reviewed by the PSB in a timely manner since they have now been determined to 'belong' to the Delaware Department of Education, a State Agency subject to Executive Order 36. Ms. Fontello said that this Executive Order states that State Agency regulations more than 3 years old are all subject to public hearings, with one in each Delaware County. Mr. Michels said he will attend these August, 2012 public hearings, take notes of public comments, and will share these comments with the Board at an upcoming meeting.
- Mr. Michels reviewed the regulations listed on the Agenda as Action Items that may have been acted upon during the meeting.

IV. Action Items

Although a quorum of the Board was present, due to the unexpected availability of members, the Board did not have the requisite number of members required for Action, therefore all Actions Items will be deferred to the next meeting.

V. Discussion

To ensure maximum participation, all discussion items will also be deferred to the next meeting.

VI. Presentation

A. Educational Testing Service: *The Praxis Series*

Mr. Michels said that since the PSB previously had a presentation from Pearson regarding their National Evaluation Series, it was incumbent upon the PSB to provide Educational Testing Service (ETS) with an opportunity to discuss their educator assessment program and services. He introduced Ms. Cathy Owens-Oliver, the Delaware Client Relations Director from ETS, who gave a PowerPoint presentation about the Praxis Series of licensure and certification assessments, and available testing options. Ms. Owens-Oliver acknowledged that Delaware has been a Praxis state for over a decade and discussed the benefits Delaware is receiving as a result of being connected with the Praxis Series Program. She provided the Board with a brief history about ETS by

mentioning that ETS commenced in 1947 and that they are still located in Princeton, New Jersey. She also noted that ETS has had over 50 million administered tests in 180 countries and in more than 9,000 locations. Ms. Owens-Oliver said ETS is one of the largest educational research organizations and this research department can benefit Delaware. She gave an overview of the Praxis Series Program, including the Praxis I test of general knowledge and the Praxis II content knowledge tests. Ms. Owens-Oliver stated that ETS also customizes products to meet specific State needs. She noted that candidates do not have to drive more than 1 hour to take a test in Delaware, and that ETS is looking to increase test center opportunities for students to take computer-based tests. She said data has shown that students received higher test scores on computer-based tests (CBTs) vs. paper and pencil administrations. She stated that all core academic areas assessments are currently offered as CBTs. Ms. Owens-Oliver noted that ETS regenerates their tests on average every 3 to 5 years, with more frequency if the need arises. ETS has a rigorous assessment process beginning with National Advisory Committees looking at current national standards, followed by panels of experts determining the nature of questions, to the validation of questions, to practitioners reviewing what would be the minimum of a Just Qualified Candidate to be able to know and do in their respective assignment. Ms. Owens-Oliver indicated that ETS is a service provider for Delaware and not a contracted vendor. Therefore, there would be no need for a Request for Proposal (RFP), a procurement process, or costs to Delaware to continue using their products to meet Delaware Educator licensure and certification requirements. Ms. Owens-Oliver provided the Board with her contact information and indicated she would be glad to respond to any questions.

B. Innovative Schools: Delaware Leadership Project's 1st Year

Mr. Michels introduced Dr. Debbie Doordan, Innovative Schools Executive Director. Innovative Schools indicated that their presentation would be centered around the results of the Delaware Leadership Project's (DLP) Year 1 Cohort. They would be talking about lessons learned and how those lessons have informed curriculum revisions for Cohort 2. Dr. Doordan said that due the late initiation of the PSB meeting, Innovative Schools' 2 program facilitators/instructors had to leave to attend another commitment. She said that Mr. Rashid Walker, a graduate of DLP Cohort 1 who was intending to speak regarding his experience in the Program also had to leave to attend a job interview. Dr. Doordan introduced Mr. Charles Sheppard, the DLP Program and Human Capital Initiatives Director who distributed a packet of information including a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Sheppard gave an overview of the DLP that included an update on their first cohort and the possibility of the request for an additional cohort.

Ms. Fontello then advised the Board that there was no longer a quorum and therefore, the meeting had officially ended. She indicated that Innovative Schools may share information with the Board, but the Board can not have a discussion without a quorum. The Board may consider an application by Innovative Schools in early fall to consider extending their Pilot for one additional cohort.

VII. PSB Standing Committees

A. Licensure and Certification Criteria

The Committee had met on July 16, 2012. Mr. Michels will share their comments with the Board when the Board considers the individual regulations the Committee reviewed for Publication in September.

B. Professional Development and Associated Compensation

The Committee had not met.

VIII. Other

None.

IX. Public Comment

None.

X. Adjournment

Due to the loss of a quorum, the meeting ended at 4:17 p.m.